

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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TO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

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PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE

1. COMMENTS OF INDONESIANS DURING PAST WEEK ON EVENTS IN INDOCHINA FOLLOW SAME GENERAL COURSE AS REPORTED TWO PREVIOUS HIGHLIGHTS.

2. IN ADDITION, COMMENTS HEARD FROM GROUP OF MOSLEM INTELLECTUALS INCLUDED FOLLOWING:

A) THIEU MADE MISTAKE OF NOT WINNING SUPPORT OF BUDDHISTS IN VIETNAM. MOSLEMS IN INDONESIA HOPE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT MAKE SAME MISTAKE (I.E. FAILING TO WIN FULL SUPPORT MOSLEM COMMUNITY).

B) MANY PEOPLE DO NOT AGREE WITH MALIK'S VIEW THAT DOMINO THEORY DOES NOT APPLY IN SEA. (MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT MAY WELL REQUEST MALIK'S PRESENCE TO ELABORATE ON HIS VIEWS.)

C) SOEKARNO'S VIEW THAT "IF INDONESIANS DEPEND ON FOREIGNERS, THEY WILL BE DISAPPOINTED" BORNE OUT BY FALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA. INDONESIANS MUST RELY ON SELVES BUT HOPE AMERICA WILL STAY IN AREA AND PROVIDE HELP IF NEEDED.

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D) CHINESE IN INDONESIA CANNOT BE FULLY TRUSTED. THEY

CAPABLE CAUSING TROUBLE E.G. THROUGH ECONOMIC STRATEGY OF BUYING
UP RICE AND OTHER COMMODITIES TO FORCE
UP PRICES AND THUS
CREATE UNSTABLE SITUATION.

3. GROUP OF THREE GOVERNMENT-CONNECTED INDONESIAN SCHOLARS MADE
FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) BOTH INDONESIAN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT ELITE VERY CONCERNED
ABOUT THEIR SECURITY SINCE FALL SOUTH VIETNAM. THEY REASSESSING
SITUATION BUT MUCH DEPENDS ON FUTURE U.S. POLICIES. PARALYSIS OF
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT CAUSED BY DIVISION OF POWER BETWEEN PRESIDENT
AND CONGRESS PERPLEXING TO INDONESIANS, MAKING DIFFICULT TO ASSESS
U.S. INTENTIONS.

B) THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES BY CHANGE IN WORLD POWER BALANCE
MAY BE FORCED ALIGN SELVES WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES FOR SURVIVAL.
UNREALISTIC OF U.S. DEMAND THIRD WORLD GOVERNMENTS ADHERE TO U.S.
CONCEPT OF DEMOCRACY; U.S. IS FAR REMOVED FROM SEA AND DOESN'T
REALIZE PRESSURES ON THIRD WORLD GOVERNMENTS WHICH, TO MAINTAIN
STABILITY, MUST RESORT TO METHODS U.S. CONSIDERS UNDEMOCRATIC.

C) KEY PROBLEM FOR INDONESIA NOW IS HOW KEEP U.S. INTERESTED
IN SEA. U.S. EXECUTIVE BRANCH UNDERSTANDS SEA PROBLEMS, (THOUGH
NOT AS WELL AS FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON) BUT U.S. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
WOEFULLY LACKING UNDERSTANDING. IF U.S. CONGRESS CONTINUES PRESENT
PATH, FINLANDIZATION OF SEA LIKELY.

D) FOREIGN AID OF MUCH IMPORTANCE TO INDONESIA TO HELP
INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT AND THUS COUNTER INSTABILITY. PRESIDENT
SUHARTO HAS BEEN APPRECIATIVE IMPORTANCE OF AMERICAN AID 'WHICH
HELPED KEEP HIM IN POWER' IN THE YEARS FOLLOWING 1965.

4. CONCERN HAS BEEN EXPRESSED BY INDONESIANS INCLUDING THOSE
REFERRED TO ABOVE, THAT HUGE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT AND ARMS CAPTURED
BY PRG AND NORTH VIETNAMESE POSES GREAT POTENTIAL DANGER SEA COUNTRIES.

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PROGRAM.

5. SECOND WEEK OF SDI ALERT PROGRAM CONTINUES TO DRAW REQUESTS
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FROM HIGH LEVEL PRIMARY AUDIENCE MEMBERS.
KLIEFORTH

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